

HOUSE RESOLUTION 237  
By Brooks (Shelby)

A RESOLUTION celebrating the arrival of Reverend John D. Pasley, Jr. at Mt. Pisgah Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

WHEREAS, the churches of our state and nation have been an integral part of our history as a people and have had an unparalleled impact in forming and maintaining a stable and just society; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor those faithful servants of God whose dedication and devotion ensure the greater success of their respective faith communities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend John D. Pasley, Jr. is one such committed and faithful servant of God, who has recently answered the Lord's call to minister to the congregation of Mt. Pisgah Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a native of Covington, Tennessee, Rev. Pasley received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee; during this time, Rev. Pasley journeyed to Jerusalem to study at the Jerusalem Center for Biblical Studies; through his meritorious educational achievements he earned scholarships from the UNCF and Nike Corporation; continuing his pursuit of knowledge, Rev. Pasley earned his Masters of Science degree in Psychology, with a concentration in Guidance and Counseling from Tennessee State University in August 1996; and

WHEREAS, preparing himself for pastoral ministry, he attended the Phillips School of Theology at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta and earned a Master of Divinity degree in Psychology of Religion with a concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling in May 2000; and

WHEREAS, while attending seminary, Rev. Pasley was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant Chaplain in the United States Air Force Reserve and graduated from the Chaplain Academy and Officers' Training School Academy; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Pasley completed his Clinical Pastoral Education Internship at Georgia Baptist Health Care Systems; during his enrollment at the Interdenominational Theological Center, he was the recipient of numerous awards, including a residential fellowship from Morehouse College, the Robert B. Shorts Pastoral Award for commitment to the parish community, and the Walker Solomon Memorial Vision of Ministry Award; additionally, he was recently chosen as the Phillips School of Theology Pastor of the Year; and

WHEREAS, being gifted to motivate God's people, Rev. Pasley has energetically ministered to the congregations of Trinity CME Church in Toccoa, Georgia, St. Paul CME Church in Bowman, Georgia, and Martin Temple CME Church in Memphis, Tennessee; his pastorate at Martin Temple CME Church was marked by the Church's incredible spiritual and physical growth; and

WHEREAS, a much sought-after evangelist, Rev. Pasley has appeared as a guest on *Keeping the Faith* and on *Let's Talk About It*, a local community religious talk show; he also served as the keynote speaker for the Interdenominational Theological Center Conference on Ministry in 2001; and

WHEREAS, presently, Rev. Pasley serves as the Director of Christian Education on the Northeast District of the West Tennessee Region of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, as Chairman of the First Year Committee on Conference Relations of the West Tennessee Region, as Vice-Chairman of the West Tennessee Region Realignment Committee, on the Board of Trustees of Phillips School of Theology, and as a Board Member of National Institute for Human Service; he also received candidacy for Leadership Memphis Class of 2004; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Pasley is an active professional member of his community, affiliated with many organizations including: the NAACP; Board of Directors of Shelby County Head Start Program, Inc.; Congress of National Black Churches; Board of Directors of the Foster Care Support Program of Memphis and Shelby County; Board of Directors of the Family to Family Initiative; Staff Counselor for the Healing Word Counseling Center; MIFA Emergency Services

Advisory Council; Commissioner for Memphis City Beautiful Commission; Memphis Ten-Point Coalition; African-American Pastor's Consortium; CME Ministerial Alliance; Lane College Alumni Association; United States Military Chaplain Association; and American Association of Christian Counselors; and

WHEREAS, committed to family values of the highest order, Rev. Pasley shares a loving covenant of marriage with Dr. Monica A. Pasley and their love has produced the blessing of two sons, John Devine Pasley, III and Joshua Allen Pasley; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Pasley's outstanding career as a dynamic and compassionate Pastor is directly attributable to his reliance upon God's grace, his dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and his uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, an unwavering commitment to the work of his Creator and Savior, the betterment of the lives of his congregation, and the welfare of all of humanity are hallmarks of the ministry of Reverend John Devine Pasley, Jr.; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby celebrate with Mt. Pisgah CME Church the arrival of Reverend John Devine Pasley, Jr. and wish both he and his congregation many blessings in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.